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In re Application of

Walker

Application Number

09/062,551

Filed

Apr. 20, 1998

Paper No. 7512

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US06652495B1

(12) **United States Patent**
Walker

(10) **Patent No.:** US 6,652,495 B1
(45) **Date of Patent:** *Nov. 25, 2003

(54) **SYSTEM FOR DISPOSAL OF FLUIDS**

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(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

This patent is subject to a terminal disclaimer.

(21) Appl. No.: 09/609,868

(22) Filed: Jul. 3, 2000

Related U.S. Application Data

(63) Continuation of application No. 09/062,551, filed on Apr. 20, 1998, now abandoned, which is a continuation-in-part of application No. 08/627,011, filed on Apr. 3, 1996, now Pat. No. 5,741,237.

(30) **Foreign Application Priority Data**

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(58) **Field of Search** 604/319-326, 604/317; 215/309; 588/258

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ABSTRACT

A system for disposing of body fluids collected during surgery comprises a canister and an apparatus for emptying and cleaning the canister. The canister has a lid having an inlet port to receive body fluids during surgery and for insertion of a cleaning fluid sprayer during servicing, an outlet port with a suction tube extending into the canister for removal of fluids therefrom, and a vacuum port for the application of vacuum to the canister. The servicing unit is an appliance having a receiving compartment in which the canister is placed. A connector head in the servicing unit connects the canister to a source of cleaning fluid and to a conduit for evacuating the fluids in the canister through the suction tube and to a decontamination chamber, where they are brought into contact with a disinfecting fluid, and subsequently to a drain.

17 Claims, 10 Drawing Sheets

